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closely associated with Robert College as director and president, and he writes from fullness of information of the ups and downs, the struggles, the trials and the triumph of this unique educational experiment.

The training and development of the physical, intellectual and moral powers of 2,500 boys of the East, so that these students, in the conspicuous places many of them have occupied, have long been recognized as representing a different type of manhood from that commonly seen in the Orient, is only one of the achievements of Robert College. It has revolutionized the policy of missionary societies with regard to education, and there are now many such institutions in different parts of the world. The college has also been influential in bringing about a less hostile state of feeling between the different races of the East, and it has had great success in winning the confidence of the surrounding Mohammedans. The author's fascinating story of the college is not cast in a precise historical vein, but is a record of personal recollections in which he speaks freely of events and personalities as they appeared to him.

Les Civilisations de l'Afrique du Nord. Berbères-Arabes-Turcs. Par Victor Piquet. ix and 392 pp. and 4 maps. Librairie Armand Colin, Paris, 1909. Fr. 4.

This book fills a need because it is the only work, in moderate compass, that gives the history of the northern part of Africa before the French occupation. Two or three learned works give much attention to various epochs of this history; and, at last, we have this little volume which concisely tells the whole story of the civilizations that succeeded one another in the large regions now known as Tunis, Algeria and Morocco. Broadly speaking, the complete history of North Africa should be divided into three parts: 1. The history of the peoples of Barbary (Lybians, Numidians and others) until the arrival of the Arabs; 2. The history of the Mohammedan governments until the establishment of the French; 3. The work of the French in North Africa. The first two periods are treated in this volume, and a part of the first period is considerably abridged because the history of the Roman rule in North Africa has been made well known in remarkable and standard works.

Many readers of this book will be especially impressed with the fact that, for many ages there was no political boundary dividing this wide home of the North African peoples. Frontiers cutting up the great area into different countries, is a comparatively modern and wholly artificial innovation. Even writers of to-day treat scientifically of the antiquities of Algeria without mentioning those of Tunis, which, nevertheless, was the cradle from which the successive civilizations of North Africa spread.

The work is based almost entirely upon the original Arabic chronicles, long extracts from which are given. The book is full of matter that is new even to the well read part of the public. It should be in every public library as the only work of the kind that has yet appeared and because it adequately treats its topic.

Die Blütenpflanzen Afrikas. Eine Anleitung zum afrikanischen Siphonogamen. Von Franz Thonner. xvi and 673 pp., 150 plates, map and index. Verlag von R. Friedländer & Sohn, Berlin, 1908. M. 10.

The author is an Austrian botanist. His recent field studies in his specialty have been carried on largely in the Congo basin. This large work, finely pro-

duced and splendidly illustrated, should be of much practical utility. The labors of many competent men have now made the flora of Africa very well known in all its characteristic features. It is highly desirable that travellers and colonists in Africa, as well as botanists in Europe and America, should be provided with a book that will enable them to determine the names, or at least the species of the African plants that interest them. This helpfulness will be found in Mr. Thonner's book. It includes all the species of the flowering plants that are now known in Africa and its islands. The author arranges the plants in 221 families. Under his description of the general characteristics of each family, he gives a paragraph to each of its species, describing it, and giving its habitat, its uses, if any, and referring to the appropriate plate, if the plant is illustrated. He has, of course, drawn largely upon the results of other botanical specialists in the African field.

The Autobiography of Sir Henry Morton Stanley. Edited by his wife, Dorothy Stanley. xvii and 551 pp., 16 photogravures, map, and index. Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston and New York, 1909. \$5.00.

Stanley was a masterful man, full of natural resource, well fitted by nature to be the leader of a military campaign or the revealer of a continent. He undertook some of the hardest tasks that ever fell to human lot and his genius helped him to carry to a successful end everything he ever attempted to do. He had many friends and many severe critics. No man ever more highly praised his subordinates, white or black, who had it in them to perform their duty well; but he had no patience with incompetency, no use for the man who fell short of the mark and could not perform the task assigned to him. It was the men who failed in his service that wrote bitterly of him and his work and most that they said was not true. In his long career as an African explorer, he steadily improved in the quality of his work, for, at the outset, he had no training for scientific exploration. His map of the Congo as he followed it to the sea is, in all its large features, practically the map of the Congo as we know it to-day. If we sum up all his voluminous writings on Africa to express, in a word, their value to the world, we may simply say that Stanley told the truth. And he soon grew to share Livingstone's perfect faith that there was good in Africa and in its peoples that every proper influence of civilization should help to foster and develop. Livingstone and Stanley were the men of faith and inspiration who set on foot the great African movement that has brought to light nearly every corner of the continent and is making such wonderful progress in the work of development since the era of pioneer exploration closed.

Most of this book is Stanley's own narrative of his life and work. Here, for the first time, we have the complete story of his life. With his deep sincerity, wonderful self-revelation, and remarkable literary style, he makes the reader see the babe in the cottage cradle, then the grim workhouse, the squalid life in Liverpool, the terrible experiences at sea, the dawn of freedom in America, where he was adopted by a New Orleans merchant; then his life as a planter, his enlistment in the Confederate Army, the wonderful picture of Shiloh, and his life in prison and escape. From his journals, notes, letters, speeches, etc., it has been possible to continue the story of his life largely in his own words—his return to England and experiences in journalism; the finding of Livingstone, exploration of the Dark Continent, the founding of the Congo State and the